



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE UPDATE

UPDATE ON SEWER MAIN REPAIR IN RIO VISTA NEIGHBORHOOD

December 18, 2019, 6:30 p.m.

Following is an update on City operations related to the 54-inch sewer main repair, located on Ponce de Leon Drive between SE 9 Avenue and SE 12 Way in the Rio Vista neighborhood.

Repair Activities

- The 36-inch bypass line that stopped the sewage spill at 3:04 a.m. this morning continues to function properly.
- Crews continue to dig an access pit around the damaged section of pipe in order to expose the break area.
- A trench box is being installed in the ground to provide greater stability around the area being excavated and added safety for the crews working on the pipe repair.
- Once crews have completed excavation work around the pipe, they will be able to examine the extent of the break and determine the length of pipe needed to replace it.
- Work is expected to continue throughout the week and repairs are scheduled to be completed by Saturday morning.

Site Operations

- Neighbors are reminded that this is an active construction site. For the safety of everyone, access to the construction area is limited to appropriate operational and management personnel.
- Diverter pipes have been demobilized, flushed, and disassembled.
- The sidewalk on the south side of Ponce de Leon Drive has reopened.
- Equipment continues to be removed from the site as part of cleanup activities.
- Stormwater staff will be on site monitoring storm drains and will be prepared to pull installed plugs should there be a flood risk.
- A portion of SE 9 Avenue has reopened for vehicular traffic. Additional signage has been placed on the roadway to remind motorists to drive slowly through the area.

Cleanup and Remediation

- Cliff Berry, Inc. (CBI) conducted cleaning, disinfection, and pressure washing of roads, sidewalks, swale areas, and driveways, particularly in the 900 block of Ponce de Leon Drive.
- Remediation and claims updates have been distributed to properties in the immediate area of the repair. Neighbors who have incurred expenses or suffered damage related to the sewage overflow can make a claim by calling the City's Risk Management Division at 954-828-5177.

-10 aerators continue to operate in the Tarpon River and New River to help improve water quality by improving oxygen levels in the water, increasing circulation, breaking down organic matter in the discharge, and helping to control odor.

-Three marine vessels conducted skimming and debris removal on the waterways in the affected area. Boats will continue to patrol the canal system in and around Rio Vista during daylight hours, from about 8 a.m. until dark as part of the cleanup efforts.

Road Closure

-Ponce de Leon Drive remains closed between SE 9 Avenue and SE 12 Way while the work progresses.

Precautionary Advisory for Water-Related Recreational Activities

-A precautionary advisory for recreational activities in local waterways remains in effect.

-The boundaries are Broward Boulevard to the north, Poinciana Drive to the east, SE 15 Street to the south, and SW 18 Avenue to the west. Water-related activities including swimming, fishing, jet-skiing, paddle-boarding, kayaking, and canoeing should be avoided within these boundaries.

-Additional signage has been placed at key access points along the Tarpon River and New River to alert the public of the advisory.

Links:

-To view a map of the precautionary advisory for water-related recreational activities, please visit <http://bit.ly/35l0DuC>.

-To view updates on the City's website, please visit <http://bit.ly/2rBJhLk>.

-To view photos of the operation, please visit <http://bit.ly/2tr4059>.

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